

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of |) | Attorney Docket No.: MIKI0004 |
| Keiichiro OISHI |) | Confirmation No.: Unknown |
| |) | |
| Serial No.: Unassigned |) | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| Filed: June 27, 2006 |) | Examiner: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| For: COPPER-BASED ALLOY CASTING |) | Date: June 27, 2006 |
| IN WHICH GRAINS ARE REFINED |) | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP: PCT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, this
Information Disclosure Statement in connection with the above-identified application is
being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b):

- within three months of the filing date of this application (not a C.P.A.);
- X** within three months of the date of entry of the National Stage;
- before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits of, after the filing of a
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under §1.114.

A copy of each non-U.S. document identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B is attached.

Attached is a copy of the Search Report issued in the corresponding Japanese application. Since all of the documents cited herein were cited in said Search Report, it is believed that the relevancy of each document cited is clear from the Search Report. Accordingly, no further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited, and that the Examiner initial a copy of Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, and return them to the undersigned to indicate that the documents have been considered.

It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-8, but should the filing of this paper necessitate a fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the necessary fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1281.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC



Joerg-Uwe Szimpl
Registration No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC
Suite PH-1
2300 Ninth Street, South
Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700
Facsimile: (703) 979-7429
E-mail: GandS@szipl.com
Customer No.: 24203

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Application Number | | |
| Filing Date | | 2006-06-27 |
| First Named Inventor | Keiichiro OISHI | |
| Art Unit | | |
| Examiner Name | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | MIKI0004 | |

U.S. PATENTS

| Examiner Initial* | Cite No | Patent Number | Kind Code ¹ | Issue Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|-------------------|---------|---------------|------------------------|------------|---|--|
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If you wish to add additional U.S. Patent citation information please click the Add button.

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial* | Cite No | Foreign Document Number ³ | Country Code ² | Kind Code ⁴ | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁵ |
|-------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| | 1 | 2004-183056 | JP | A | 2004-07-02 | SANBO COPPER ALLOY CO LTD | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | 2 | 2002-03064 | JP | A | 2002-01-31 | SUMITOMO LIGHT METAL IND LTD; SHINNITTO KINZOKU | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | 3 | 2001-247923 | JP | A | 2001-09-14 | SANBO COPPER ALLOY CO LTD | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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| Art Unit | | |
| Examiner Name | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | MIKI0004 | |

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|--|---|-----------|----|---|------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | 4 | 02-170954 | JP | A | 1990-07-02 | NIPPON MINIG CO LTD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | 5 | 04-224645 | JP | A | 1992-08-13 | NIKKO KYODO CO LTD | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ⁵ |
|--------------------|---------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | 1 | International Search Report Issued in the corresponding application PCT/JP2005/008662; Completed July 21, 2005 and Mailed August 9, 2005. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

If you wish to add additional non-patent literature document citation information please click the Add button

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. ² Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

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| Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | MIKI0004 |

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

OR

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

☐ See attached certification statement.

☐ Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.

☒ None

SIGNATURE

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

| | | | |
|------------|------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Signature | /Joerg-Uwe Szpl/ | Date (YYYY-MM-DD) | 2006-06-27 |
| Name/Print | Joerg-Uwe Szpl | Registration Number | 31799 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

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2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.